PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

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LECTURE CV.

LATIN AMERICA.

LATIN AMERICA, though not nominally in the war is a fellow-sufferer with the Allies—Latin AMERICA is the exposed frontier of the UNITED STATES, the Axis jumping-off point across the Atlantic from DAKAR in AFRICA. Latin AMERICA's first line of defence is also the British Fleet in the Atlantic. Politically EUROPE's frontiers lie in the New World.

Economically, the effect of the war on Latin AMERICA has been disastrous. It is not only EUROPE that is blockaded, but Latin AMERICA also; because while EUROPE cannot import, AMERICA cannot export either to FRANCE, or SCANDINAVIA or the BALKANS. Trade with GERMANY has ceased completely. The British, too, buy less owing to shipping shortage. The Latin American countries, which live mostly on their exports of coffee, tin, oil, nitrates and copper, to mention a few, have been hit very hard.

Latin AMERICA is the home of fifth-columnism, espionage and subversive propaganda. All over the country sprawl German Schools, the German Yugend, and the Storm Troop Units. The German own or subsidise local newspapers and have their own news service—*Transocean*. Secret Radio stations abound. In almost every State there is a Nazi or Fascist opposition to the Government, financed or controlled by the Germans. There are Axis air-lines—the arteries of

the Fifth-Columnists, such as the Italian L. A. T. I. [BERLIN—ROME—DAKAR—NATAL (BRAZIL)] and the CONDOR controlled by the Deutsche Lufthansa. There is also the Falangist influence, especially after Franco's victory.

Since the U. S. entered the war the situation has become more complicated still. With Japanese occupation in the Far East, the U. S. have to look to Latin AMERICA increasingly for supplies; the Panama has become a vital point. The increased submarine attacks in the Carribean reveal how the Nazis expelled from North Atlantic are stealing into the Latin American seas.

Thus the war which has enveloped most part of the world is approaching Latin AMERICA also—what has been called the Dark Continent of the New world; and the following short study is offered to throw light on its past and its present.

THE LAND.

Latin AMERICA is a conglomeration of twenty States in central and South AMERICA. BRAZIL, the colossus among them, is bigger than the U. S; ARGENTINA, the richest, is five times the size of FRANCE; PERU, a pigmy, is bigger than the Union of South AFRICA; and the group of States, including MEXICO, forming the cornucopia of Central AMERICA is larger than SPAIN.

These States are not so distant from the Old World, as they are in popular imagination. Their most easterly bulge is only 2,000 miles from AFRICA. RIO DE JANEIRO and BUENOS AIRES are nearer to LISBON than to NEW YORK. Bounded on the west by the lofty Andes, they stretch from TIERRA DEL FUEGO to the Carribean Sea: they comprise the vast inland world of AMAZONIA. In Latin AMERICA, the air unites and the land divides: that is, airways are easier than landways.

CONQUEST AND COLONISATION.

The Spaniards were the first conquerors and colonists of these lands. Their first impact was with the natives of MEXICO and PERU, who, though highly civilised proved no match for the white men with their modern weapons. For the most part there was little serious opposition to the Conquistadores. The Indians who were not exterminated were condemned to labour in the mines. The Portuguese followed and colonised BRAZIL. Next to them came the Italians and the Germans. ARGENTINA is now more than 30 per cent Italian; in

BRAZIL to-day there are three-fourths of a million Germans. Asiatic immigration is a twentieth century phenomenon. There are some 200,000 Japanese in BRAZIL, the result of a carefully planned colonisation.

UNITY IN DIVERSITY.

The States of Latin AMERICA differ among themselves in social and political developments as much as in size, race and population. There is no such person as a Latin American; they are either Brazilians or Mexicans. But there is a sense of Americanism in them all; a sense of a common heritage of newly won independence; a growing consciousness of common interests and ideals.

THE SPANISH EMPIRE.

The Spanish Empire in the New World which existed for about three centuries was one of the longest lived; it was built on a gigantic scale and once extended from California to Cape Horn, Portuguese BRAZIL excluded. In contrast to North American colonisation which belongs to the ninteenth century, Spanish exploration and expansion belong to the 16th century. The empire was administered as a centralised absolutism from SPAIN and the codes of Law, though never more benevolently framed were never worse abused and cruelly administered by the Spanish Satraps. But while in North AMERICA English colonists were educated to Self-Government, in Latin AMERICA the colonists were almost, if not entirely, excluded from the work of the Government.

EL DORADO.

For long years the Spanish Empire was fabulously rich—the world's greatest supply-region as well as market.

BRITAIN's growing sea-power established once for all at TRAFALGAR, and Napoleon's invasion of SPAIN, added to the southward pressure of the U. S. precipitated the Spanish American Revolution. Beginning as a challenge to French over-lordship it ended as a war of independence against SPAIN itself. In the event it turned out to be an epic achievement, the birth of a new world, in which the names of Martin and Bolivar stand out as liberators, and those of Lord Cochrane and Admiral Brown as honoured British friends of the cause. In fact, British sympathy and co-operation was one of the principal aids to the revolution. The British Fleet held off European intrusion, Lord Castlereagh and George Canning formulated the policy of European Non-intervention.

It was then that President Monroe issued the famous doctrine that goes by his name, that American States should no longer be considered to be areas of European colonisation.

THE OPEN DOOR.

The independence movement of Latin AMERICA has proved one of the most formative factors of modern history. A new continent had been in fact politically created, with which the intercourse of the Old World was bound to grow. But while the British policy favoured the linking up of EUROPE and AMERICA, the U. S. favouring an 'American System' stood out for isolation. Ultimately, as a compromise, emerged the policy of the Open Door. Though Latin AMERICA was to be excluded as a stage for the rivalries of European colonisation, the door was to be left open to trade, investment and immigration. The frontiers of EUROPE, it was conceded, lay in the new. This was the beginning of a large-scale German immigration; and European capital, British, French and Geman which looked abroad just then, was invested largely in public loans in Latin AMERICA.

LATIN AMERICA ENTERS THE SOCIETY OF NATIONS.

Foreign immigration, foreign capital, and fresh contacts with the world have accelerated the rise of these States and their entry into the Society of Nations. Shipping ports and public utilities have increased. All the States now profess a common democratic faith, though it has yet to be realised in substance, and all of them now avow a common distrust of totalitarianism, though dictators have not ceased. With economic progress labour has emerged as a power; a middle class has sprung up; and attendant socialistic and political institutions have made their appearance. In *Lá Nacion* and *La Premsa*, Latin AMERICA possesses two of the world's best newspapers. As the home of international conferences MONTE VIDEO has become the GENEVA of the New World. To URUGUAY belongs the honour of inagurating the New Deal in principle, which has doubled her trade and population. The 'crowned democracy' of BRAZIL, which in the régime of the scholar-Emperor Pedro II enjoyed the reputation of being the most enlightened of the Latin States, is now a totalitarian State under President Vargas but freed from the wicked features of European National-Socialism; it labours for the development of Brazil's natural resources, and social and economic reform.

Latin AMERICA is to-day a laboratory of political, social, racial and economic experiments. In CHILE, there is a movement for social regeneration; in URUGUAY, political and social innovations are in progress; in BOLIVIA and PERU, the Indian, the forgotten man of Latin AMERICA, is coming into his own. MEXICO, finally, has presented the first genuine social revolution of the New World. In MEXICO, the new revolution, with its emphasis on the peasant and the worker, is at least seven years older than Russian Communism; still as distinct from the Russian variety as President Vargas's Estado Novo is from Italian Fascism. MEXICO to-day is being transformed from a colonial to an independent economy, from a semi-feudal to a democratic nation; Since the accession of President Avila Camacho in 1940 the creation of a free Mexico for free Mexicans has become a dominant factor.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

To-day Latin AMERICA is the richest raw material producing area in the world and exports form its life-blood; BOLIVIA depends for its existence on tin, VENEZUELA on oil; MEXICO, on metals and oil; CHILE on nitrates and copper; COLOMBIA on coffee; BRAZIL on sugar, coffee, rubber, and cotton. ARGENTINA is not only one of the world's great granaries but its largest exporters of beef.

In general, about 40% of the exports are sold in the western Hemisphere. There is, however, a great distinction between the Latin States above the 'bulge' of BRAZIL and those below it. The countries of the Carribean area are closely linked with the U. S. strategically and economically; while the Southern States, competitive with the U. S. look to EUROPE for their market.

DECLARATION OF LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE.

The outbreak of the present war has, in consequence, dislocated Latin American trade, as the continental markets are closed in EUROPE and the problem of the disposal of huge surpluses has risen; and simultaneously Latin AMERICA has struck out a policy of economic independence. The States are now trying to buy out foreign interests and organise their own industries.

PAN-AMERICANISM.

The growing tendency to become self-sufficient has led to a closer association of the American States among themselves. Pan-Americanism

initiated, even as early as 1826 at the Congress of PANAMA by Bolivar, has grown gradually and has been strengthened by the more recent conferences held between 1889 and 1928. With the entrance of the U. S. into the present war, a number of these States have followed her example; some have declared war against and some have severed diplomatic relations with, GERMANY.

President Roosevelt, with his usual foresight has formulated a policy of 'Good Neighbourhood' with these States by recognising *de facto* Governments and withdrawing U. S. garrisons from the States where they had been garrisoned. These wise steps have borne fruit. At the 1940 HAVANA Conference, the Latin States agreed on a common programme to remove the danger arising from Axis elements within their areas. They affirmed a common will to prevent the transfer of European territories in the Western Hemisphere to Non-American Powers and to establish diplomatic machinery to carry out that will. In the interests of 'hemisphere defence' as it is called, they have also shown an increasing tendency to pool together and co-ordinate economic military and naval resources.

The Pan-American Conference of 21 Countries which met at RIO DE JANEIRO in December last adopted the following formula of rupture with the Axis. *Firstly*, the countries concerned consider every act of aggression against any **one** of themselves as an act of aggression against **all** of them; *Secondly*, they reaffirmed their solidarity for purposes of reciprocal protection; *Thirdly*, subject to the procedure laid down by internal laws and taking into consideration the position and the circumstances of each country, they recommended the rupture of relations with JAPAN, GERMANY and ITALY; *Fourthly* they agreed to consult one another before re-establishing their ruptured relations.

Thus are the States of Latin AMERICA coalescing with one another and with the rest of AMERICA. Common peril is welding them into a single Power for Victory.

We shall conclude with President Roosevelt's exposure of the Nazi peril to Latin AMERICA: the words were spoken on Navy Day:—

"Hitler has often protested that his plans for conquest do not extend across the Atlantic Ocean. His submarines and raiders prove otherwise. So does the entire design of his "New World Order."

"I have in my possession a secret map made in GERMANY by Hitler's Government—by the planners of the New World Order......... It is a map of South AMERICA and part of Central AMERICA as Hitler proposes to re-organise it."

"To-day in this area there are fourteen separate countries. The geographical experts in BERLIN, however, have ruthlessly obliterated all existing boundary lines, and have divided South AMERICA into five vassal States, bringing the whole continent under their domination. They have also arranged it that the territory of one of those new puppet States includes the Republic of PANAMA and our great life-line, the Panama Canal."

"Ours has been a story of vigorous challenges which have been accepted and overcome—challenges of un-chartered seas, of wild forests, deserts and plains, of raging floods and withering drought, of staggering problems—social, economic and physical; and we have come out of them."

"To-day, in the face of this newest and greatest challenge we Americans have cleared our decks and taken up our battle-stations."

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

18—7—42 to 24—7—42.

Egypt.—British troops, fighting in the central sector, west of EL ALAMEIN, have, as the Italian official news itself admits, succeeded in penetrating into a fairly big area separating the Axis defences and spreading out into the rear. There was a seven-mile advance here on Thursday, when the enemy's attempt to seize Ruwei Sep Ridge was beaten off, and a further slight Allied advance also became possible.

In the northern sector the fighting developed into a Battle of Ridges. TEL EL EISA which changed hands frequently is now retained and two more ridges, EL MAKHRHAD and RUIN, which the enemy attacked are also in Allied possession.

There was a lull in the fighting on Sunday and Monday. Dust storms restricted operations in the air. On Tuesday at dusk a new battle started, initiated by General Auchinleck, with a tank assault on all sectors. As a result of his forward march in the northern sector the

whole of the TEL EL EISA bridge is now in British hands. In the south also some progress has been made. The enemy is desperately resisting.

The arrival of enemy supplies is rendered increasingly difficult by attacks, by air and sea, on BENGHAZI, TOBRUK, BARDIA, BOMBA, MERSA MATRUH, FUKA and SUDA Bay (CRETE). The American Air Force has recorded a total of 21 attack missions on Axis convoys on their way to the African coast.

Russia.—(*a*) VORONEJ—All German attempts either to capture, encircle, or by-pass VORONEJ have failed; as also the attempt to dig in. The Germans have been driven out of two villages in the vicinity and the chief road communicating with the river-crossing has been cut. Soviet troops have pierced the German line at a point north-west of VORONEJ. According to the latest Moscow Radio message, 'the Germans at VORONEJ are in deadly peril.'

The Battle of the Don continues in all ferocity. The Germans are using parachute and glider-borne troops, as at CRETE, to prevent orderly retreat, but the Russians, fighting rear-guard actions are withdrawing to a natural defence line. MILLEROVO and VOROSHILOVGROD have been evacuated and the enemy's drive has approached ROSTOV. Fierce fighting is reported at TSYMLYANSKAYA 120 miles east-north-east of ROSTOV, and NOVOCHERKASK about 20 miles north of ROSTOV.

One of the most serious problems arising from the present military situations is the maintenance of communications. The two main railway lines, which still remain, one from Moscow to ASTRAKHAN, and the other, from Moscow to STALINGRAD and the Caspian are now within reach of German aerodromes. The area of fighting south of VOROSHILOVGRAD is continually widening.

GERMANY is being compelled to convoy her shipping in the Baltic Sea and the Barents Sea owing to the presence of Soviet submarines and aircraft. During the week two German transports (5,000 tons and 8,000 tons) 3 gun-boats and an armoured boat were sunk.

KOENIGSBERG in East PRUSSIA was bombed twice by Soviet planes during the week.

China.—The Chinese have recaptured TSINGTIEN, JUIAN, HENGFENG, in east CHEKIANG and TSAOTON, TESINYUNG and SATUAN in east KIANGSI. Other places reported as recaptured by the Chinese are KINKI, SANCHANG-KON, CHIANTCH, and LINCHWAN. WENCHOW, which was retaken by the Chinese has been captured again by the Japanese.

American planes bombed and sank 2 ships of about 2,000 tons near FOOCHOW. CANTON and HANKOW were bombed. General Haines of the U. S. Army Air Force in CHINA said that the bombing of Japanese bases would soon be greatly increased. General Chenault of the British Air Force has also observed that judging by recent events 'a turning point has been reached in air operations and that the Japanese air force was now more on the defensive.'

Burma.—In raids over widely-separated parts of BURMA, the river fronts at PALETWA and KWAZON at the head of the MAYU CREEK, were bombed. At KALEWA base on the Chindwin River large fires were started. KYIGON on the Myittha river, SABATA on the Kaladin river, TAUKKAN, HTOMA, MYAUK and OYSTER ISLAND, were attacked. Buildings of military value were bombed at AKYAB itself. A bombing and machine-gun attack from low level was also made on steamers at KYANKPYU, south of AKYAB.

The Pacific.—In the ALEUTIANS, the Japanese have occupied the undefended islands of ATTUAG and AGATTU and raided DUTCH harbour and FORT GLENN. American aircraft attacked shore installations at KISKA. U. S. submarines sank three Japanese destroyers near KISKA.

The Japanese have landed a force of about 1,500 to 2,500 men at BURNA, on the nothern coast of PAPUA. This constitutes a new threat to Port MORESBY, which lies 125 miles to the south. The Australians have inflicted heavy casualties on the disembarking troops. An enemy transport and barge were sunk.

The R. A. F.—Carried out attacks on N. W. GERMANY, HOLLAND and the French coast and BELGIUM. The chief centres were LUBECK, FLENSBURG, EMDEN and DUISBURG.

Naval—(1) The *Stureborg* of 1,584 tons, chartered by the Swedish Red-Cross was sunk by air-attack in the Mediterranean. The vessel carried a cargo of about 3,000 tons of wheat to GREECE and was bombed on the return journey in spite of the assurances of the German and Italian Governments promising safe conduct.

(2) The *Saldary*, of 1,200 tons, one of the biggest and most modern of TURKEY's submarines sank near CHANAK, under unknown circumstances.

The New Order at Work.—1. The German commander in HOLLAND has proclaimed that the lives of hostages will be forfeit if acts

of sabotage continue. Auton Van Duinkerton, poet and singer, known as HOLLAND's Kipling, is one of those threatened with execution.

2. In YUGO-SLAVIA, German river flotillas and Hungarian units have been sent to put down General Mihailovitch's revolt which has spread all along the Danube. Yugo-Slav guerillas have stormed their way into the town of KONJICA; they have driven the Germans from the towns of SARAJEVO and MOSTAR and destroyed 12 miles of railway line beween KONJICA and MOSTAR.

3. In reprisal for the shooting of two gestapo agents at ZRIERZ 7,000 Poles were rounded up and 100 selected at random were condemned to death. 96 men and 4 women, including doctors, journalists and 2 priests so selected were shot.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Enemies
13—7—42. (Monday).				
NIGHT :—	**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**			
	The big inland port of DUISBERG.			
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	Landing grounds at EL DABA.			
	A column of tanks and a large concentration of vehicles between EL DABA and EL ALAMEIN.			
	RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
	Air combats along the entire front.			
	FAR EAST—ALOR Islands. (By American and British planes).			
	Wharf Installations and vessels at KALABAHI.	A small vessel sunk.		
	NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
	The aerodrome at SALAMAUA.			
14—7—42 (Tuesday).				
NIGHT :—	**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**			
	Laying mines in enemy waters.			
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	Concentration of enemy tanks and troops in the EL ALAMEIN area.			
	TOBRUK.			
	RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
	Air combats along the whole battle area.			
	FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
	Reconnaissance over SALAMAUA.			

ALLIED-Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
15—7—42 (Wednesday)			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY:—			
German camps, gun-posts and troops and other targets on the coast of FRANCE between DIEPPE and ETAPLES. **Offensive sweeps** over CHERBOURG and BOULOGNE areas.		4 planes.	3 planes.
NIGHT:—			
No information available.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Dock installations and shipping at BENGHAZI harbour.	Big fires started.	1 plane.	7 planes.
Enemy tanks and armoured cars behind the enemy's forward lines.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire front.			
FAR EAST. (By American and British planes).			
No information available.			
BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
KALEWA and **MYITTHA.**			
BARGES on KALEMYO.			
16—7—42 (Thursday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY:—			
Industrial and military objectives in the RUHR and North-west GERMANY. **Railway yards and other objectives** on the French coast.		1 plane.	
EVENING:—			
Submarine building yards at LUBECK. **The shipyards** at FLENSBURG.		2 planes.	
NIGHT:—			
Laying mines in enemy waters.			

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Military targets in the rear of the enemy.			
Transport concentrations in the EL DABA area.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and grounded aircraft along the whole battle area.			
FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
Wharf installations and shipping in RABAUL harbour.			
TIMOR. (By American and British planes).			
Reconnaissance over the military targets on the ISLAND.			
BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
The aerodrome at AKYAB.			
OYSTER Island. (By American and British planes).			
17—7—42 (Friday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
NIGHT:—			
Laying mines in enemy waters.			
Aerodromes in occupied FRANCE.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
The harbour and shipping at TOBRUK.			
Shipping in the Gulf of BOMBA and BARDIA.			
Petrol drumps at MERSA MATRUH.			
Enemy concentrations behind the forward lines in the EL ALAMEIN area.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats along the entire front.			

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
17—7—42 (Friday)—cont.				
	FAR EAST—SOLOMON Islands. (By American and British planes).			
	The aerodrome at KIETA.			
	NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
	Reconnaissance over the enemy occupied area.			
	CHINA. (By American and British planes.)			
	Jap shipping at HANKOW.			
18—7—42 (Saturday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY:—				
	Military objectives in the RUHR and North-west GERMANY.			
	An enemy convoy off CHERBOURG Peninsula.	1 ship sunk.		
NIGHT:—				
	Laying mines in enemy waters.			
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	Offensive sweeps over the forward areas.			
	TOBRUK.	Big fires started.		
	RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle area.	Loss for the week:— July 11 to 18.	137 planes.	211 planes.
	FAR EAST. (By American and British planes).			
	Reconnaissance over the areas in South-west Pacific.			
19—7—42 (Sunday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY:—				
	An armed freighter and a minesweeper off the coast of NORWAY.	Both ships hit.		

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
	Power stations at CHOCQUES and MAZINGARBE.			
	Other industrial objectives in the LILLE-BETHUNE area in occupied FRANCE.			
	Offensive sweeps over the coastal districts off the PAS DE CALAIS area.			1 plane.
NIGHT:—				
	VEGESACK.			
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	The dock area, the ship yards and the harbour at TOBRUK.			
	MERSA MATRUH.			
	Enemy tanks and transport in the battle area.			
	Offensive reconnaissances over the forward areas in the EL ALAMEIN area.			
	RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire front.			
	FAR EAST—CHINA. (By American and British planes).			
	Japanese Army Head-quarters at LINCHWAN.			
	S. W. PACIFIC. (By American and British planes).			
	Reconnaissance over the North-Western sector of S. W. PACIFIC.			
20—7—42 (Monday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY:—				
	A variety of military targets between OCTEVILLE and LE TREPORT. **An armed trawler** in SOMME Estuary. **A railway station** north of DIEPPE.		1 pla e.	

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies	Aircraft losses for Allies.
14—7—42 (Tuesday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		3 planes.	
FAR EAST. (By Jap planes).			
No information available.			
15—7—42 (Wednesday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.			
EGYPT. (By German planes).			
British positions in the EL ALAMEIN area.			
16—7—42 (Thursday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.			
17—7—42 (Friday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
DAY:—			
South coast of ENGLAND; a place in Greater LONDON area.		1 plane.	
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		4 planes.	
FAR EAST—SOLOMON Islands. (By Jap planes).			
Air fight over TULAGI.		2 planes.	

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.	Aircraft losses for Allies.
18—7—42 (Saturday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.			
EGYPT. (By German planes).			
Allied landing ground at BER EL ARAB area.			
19—7—42 (Sunday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes)			
MALTA.			
20—7—42 (Monday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		1 plane.	
NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes).			
PORT MORESBY.			

SIDE LIGHTS.

NATONAL WAR FRONT: PROFITEERING. All is grist, no doubt, that comes to the War Front mill, but if the War worker could succeed in putting down profiteering he would have succeeded in a major effort by bringing down prices and thereby raising the morale. The mass of the population know the War—mainly by having to pay more for their food and other essentials. They curse the War, they curse the trader—they feel forlorn, hapless and despondent. Once profiteering went down the morale would rise automatically and with it the power of resistance, physical and moral, of the nation.

We realise that the problem is more easy to state than to solve. We know that in spite of strenuous official efforts the prices have a tendency to continue to remain at inflated levels. There are problems also of stock and transport; the trader is too clever by half; he will produce false invoices, refuse to issue cash receipts, and if a consumer insisted on paying only the official rate, he would meet with polite refusal, 'Sorry, out of stock—try the next shop.' Then there are other devices—inferior brands, and adulteration; there is the trade 'ring' again, which fixes the price in common, so that wherever you go you are met by the same high price. The profiteers' logic is, that as in future —when, it is not stated—the prices will rise, by how much he himself does not know, the poor customer must pay more in the present while the fact, generally, is that most of the essentials, especially the food-stuffs, are produced within the country itself and international conditions cannot possibly affect the day-to-day trade.

Another plea is that the general rise in living costs under war conditions has forced up price, but in many cases, the culprit responsible, for an inflated market is the trader himself. Short stock is another bogey. But the shortage is generally the result of hoarding, though the loss of BURMA and INDO-CHINA and the demands of the MIDDLE EAST are contributory causes. Merchants also shift stock from place to place—to out-of-the-way places to make it appear that the stocks have run short. On the whole the wholesaler is largely responsible for the 'shortage' legend, while the retailer—the small shop-keeper—takes his cue from the big man and grabs what he can, without conscience—without feelings for the poor, or, for the situation created by the war. In this respect the small trader is much more voracious than the wholesaler; while the latter adds a few annas only to a bag, the petty shop-keeper adds a quarter anna to every anna.

As we observed at the outset, the problem is more easy to state than to solve. But the problem has to be tackled.

In normal times two factors bring the prices down—plentiful production and an open market. In the altered conditions of the war, tradesmen have combined against the consumers and a rival competitive agency has to be set up in one form or another. The Grow More Food drive is a long-range plan. To ask the consumer to refuse to pay the higher price is a heroic remedy, at least, a counsel of perfection; men must eat to live and must clothe themselves. Governments, we know, have been advised to open grain shops and stores. This, as it was dubbed at a MADRAS meeting, smacks of socialism.

Trade is a technical, specialised job, a tricky affair and Governments are but novices and unless every care is exercised, rats—both human and rodent—would work havoc. They cannot reach the poor in every case, as the poor are generally indebted, more often to the sowcar himself; and because the Government shop will not give credit. If enough consumers could form a co-operative union beneficial results would ensue; but it is a big 'if'—consumers are also novices at trade. Every village is not a Rochdale: pioneers are scarce. But co-operative effort seems to us the best remedy, not cnly for the present—to meet the situation arising out of the war, but also for the future, for covering the land with a net-work of co-operative wholesalers. The presence of one such successful organisation in a village would eliminate the middle man and the unscrupulous petty-trader, even as credit societies have brought down usury; it would build a democratic national front of an enduring, self-respecting and self-reliant character.

The National War Worker would appeal to many elements in society to eliminate profiteering. He would appeal to the buyer to resist profiteering; to the shopkeeper to be reasonable; to the wholesaler, who, is really in control of the market, to take a more patriotic view in these critical times and become himself a war worker in the country's interest. Where these efforts fail, he would take practical steps for the formation of a consumers' co-operative, or perhaps, convert existing Credit Co-operative Societies, and persuade them to try their amateur hand, cautiously but also enterprisingly, at this new line of business. Much may be done by persuasion and advice, by practical efforts in a familiar area.

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THE RUSSIAN SITUATION continues to be grave but it is not one of unrelieved gloom. The German grand strategy is some what as follows:—The main Nazi drive intended, initially, to seize the lower UKRAINE is ultimately a drive to the Volga calculated to cut the Red Army in two and uncover the whole flank of the CAUCASUS. VORONEJ is a vital point in the middle; north of it, the operations, at BRIANSK, MOSCOW and KALININ are of a minor character, partly, to prevent a Russian

counter-offensive in these areas and partly, to prevent the Russians in the north from reinforcing the Red Armies in the south. There are at least five enemy armies operating—one from KURSK, advancing towards SARATOV but held up at VORONEJ; a second, advancing from BOGUCHAR along the course of the Don, just where it begins its great sweep; the third from KANTEMIROVKA towards the Don; a fourth from MILLEROVO towards STALINGRAD on the Volga, 50 miles from the Don; and a fifth again from MILLEROVO but striking southwards towards Rostov.

Thus, while north of VORONEJ the fighting is comparatively slight and sporadic, and without results, VORONEJ has developed into a centre of stout resistance from which, with better strength a Russian counter-offensive may yet start, while south of VORONEJ several German armies are simultaneously pressing into the great bend of the Don and for the rich Donetz basin including the cities of STALINGRAD and ROSTOV.

One bright spot in an otherwise cheerless situation is the glorious and successful resistance at VORONEJ The German claim to have taken VORONEJ is false. For two weeks the Germans have been battering in vain, converting its fair countryside into a hell and the town itself into a shambles; but VORONEJ on the main route from MOSCOW to the CAUCASUS holds out; and the Russians have recrossed the Don below VORONEJ and established themselves on the west bank.

Another satisfactory feature is the orderly withdrawal of the Russian forces in the south, to selected positions in the rear where they will concentrate at a favourable point; these armies have been neither isolated nor cut, as the Nazis proclaim. Never has Russian morale stood so high; RUSSIA is now a single nation with the single purpose of destroying the invader. As Maurice Hindus writes from KUIBISHEV: 'RUSSIA is not defeatist; loss of territory has never mattered much to the Russians, because the enemy is always made to pay dearly for it. It is only a matter of time before the enemy is worn out, decimated and defeated'. 'Don't forget,' he adds, 'that last winter the enemy was all round TULA; unable to take it by-passed it and dashed towards MOSCOW, only to be thrown back with enormous losses.'

In man-power RUSSIA has a decided superiority. In spite of the loss of valuable lands in the UKRAINE, the agricultural outlook is encouraging. The harvest in the valleys of the Don and the Donetz has been reaped under the very nose of the invaders.

True to form, the German broadcast in Arabic impudently asserts that 'the Russians no longer possess sufficient resources for launching a counter-attack'. Far from being true, according to official figures, RUSSIA's war production in May, 1942, was at least 100% greater than in June 1941.

Stalin's order 'to build a second coal and metallurgical base beyond the Urals' has been carried out. For instance, the oil production of the Russian SYZRAH—BASHKIRIA and central Asian oil fields is at least 7 million tons annually—a figure larger than the present Caucasion production.

A Nippon broadcast of the week states that 'although six weeks have elapsed since the conclusion of the Anglo-Russian Pact, yet the Russians have received no help from the British'. Captain Oliver Lyttleton, BRITAIN's Minister of Production has shown it a lie. At ALDERSHOT, on Saturday last he said that BRITAIN who had already sent 2,000 tanks to RUSSIA, despite the demands of the MIDDLE EAST and other theatres of war was now sending 50 tanks a week on an averge to RUSSIA and had, by the end of May itself sent 11% more than she had promised up to the end of June. As a commentator put it, 'the aid to RUSSIA is extravagant and unbusinesslike'.

A German radio news of July 9 claims the complete destruction of a recent Allied convoy of 32 ships, laden with tanks, planes and foodstuffs, by German warships, including the *Tirpitz*, operating in the Arctic. In spite of German U-boats and dive-bombers—and let us add, of Dr. Goebbels, the convoy did as a matter of fact get through *safely*. This we state on the authority of the New York Radio and the Soviet newspaper *Pravda*. A likely reason for this deliberate fabrication is the Nazi discomfiture at the damage inflicted on *Von Tirpitz* itself recently by a Russian submarine.

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FAR EAST. Japanese policy is becoming obvious. Having seized the PHILIPPINES, the DUTCH EAST INDIES, SIAM, MALAYA and BURMA she is at present engaged in the task of protecting them from Allied attacks, especially from the air. For this she is now busy neutralising CHINA, by seizing her ports and air-fields. She is also getting ready to strike further into any soft spot in the Allied line, if it could be found. She would like to take, if she could, VLADIVOSTOK and the Soviet Pacific coast, from which she could be bombed. For this, she is concentrating troops in MANCHUKUO and establishing a base in the ALEUTIANS from which she could intercept U. S. help to RUSSIA. Japanese policy continues to be as selfish as ever. She would attack RUSSIA, only if GERMANY succeeded against RUSSIA and made her weak; similarly she would attempt to strike elsewhere, not to help the Axis partners so much as to get a good chance for herself.

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EGYPT. The fighting in this area may be described as a minor success to General Auchinleck. The result is due partly to the happy choice of a bottle-neck at EL ALAMEIN for

a battle-ground, between the sea and soft sand, which could be neither by-passed nor encircled ; and the timely arrival of reinforcements of men, tanks and artillery. Auchinleck's army is now a commonwealth, in miniature of British, Indian, South African, Australian and New Zealand troops.

Auchinleck's armaments have now been replenished with General Lee tanks, U. S. General Stewart tanks ('Honeys'), British Valentine tanks, and 25 pounder-field-guns—all weapons of the most modern type. Heavy U. S. bombers are in action against enemy ports, communications and convoys. A notable development is the transfer of Major-General Brereton of the U. S. Air-Corps from NEW DELHI to CAIRO.

The six mile Allied advance, west of EL ALAMEIN,–in the northern sector and the capture of 2000 Axis prisoners at TEL EL EISA, though a limited, local affair, had proved a powerful punch and Rommel in reply carried out full-blooded attacks, somewhat as follows—though in vain ; *First day* : attack on the centre, result—loss of 20 tanks ; *Second day* : attack on TEL EL EISA in the north, no result ; *Third day:* TEL EL EISA attacked again, part of the ground was temporarily gained by the enemy but soon after relinquished; simultaneously, the Allies seized RUWEIST RIDGE in the centre ; *Fourth day* : Enemy's force attack on RUWEIST ; *Fifth day* : Renewal of attack on RUWEIST with no better result. So the battle continues backward and forward. But the enemy is still in EGYPT and no complacency is possible till he is driven out.

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FRENCH WARSHIPS IN ALEXANDRIA. When nearly a couple ot weeks ago Rommel's swift advance brought him inside the Egyptian frontier the question of the disposal of the French warships interned in ALEXANDRIA called for urgent consideration. Though the ships had been disarmed they were still capable of sailing under their own power and would still be a source of danger if they fell into enemy hands. In consultation with BRITAIN, the U. S. Government made two proposals to Pétain, one, warning that BRITAIN would destroy the ships if they were not removed through the Suez Canal to an American port and the other, offering the alternative of taking them to MARTINIQUE.

Now news comes of Vichy's refusal of either offer. It is 'an insult to the dignity of FRANCE' says a Vichy Note, and Laval is reported to have threatened dire consequences, were the ships to be destroyed with American acquiescence.

The present Anglo-American attitude to VICHY is still one of sympathy, though estrangement is growing. Both BRITAIN and AMERICA would still try to continue to maintain friendly relations though with an unfriendly

Power. While Britishers and Americans individually hate Laval, their Governments would continue to be friendly with Laval's régime, because Pétain is still worth saving, worth befriending.

So the Anglo-American policy has so far favoured appeasement and this has checked, though it has not been able to eliminate, Nazi influence. ENGLAND and AMERICA love FRANCE still, with all her faults. But they will show their contempt for Laval and fight him at every turn ; if fight they must, they will, but with the feeling, 'we are with you : we are coming to free you.'

One policy, and one only dominates—association, against GERMANY—that should be complele, if possible, before the war is over, so that it may help to speed up and clinch the Victory.

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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'S VISIT.

In another part of the bulletin the reader will find an extract from the rousing message which His Royal Highness has left the people of INDIA, a message calm and steady in outlook and unique in the vision of the certainty of victory, and in a wisdom by which INDIA may benefit. **'India', said His Royal Highness, 'is a country fashioned by nature to be united. Divided against herself she would be weak, united she can be great and powerful beyond measure'.**

The Duke's visit which began on June 9 ended on July 19 ; he travelled 7,695 miles by air in 52 flying hours and over 1,500 miles by rail ; he saw seven provinces, three States, nine A.R.P. Centres, 15 Military Hospitals and a number of army concentrations. Though all too short, his extensive tour brought him into close contact with different classes of men and women, whom he made friends, and enabled him to gain a comprehensive view of the existing conditions. He witnessed the vast military preparations made and being made for the defence of the country.

In a farewell message to General Wavell he says :—

"On leaving INDIA, after my tour of INDIA and CEYLON, I wish to tell you how much I have been impressed by all I have seen and by the bearing, turn-out and cheerful spirit of the units I have inspected, I am confident that when these forces enter into battle, wherever it may be, they will show themselves worthy of the great fighting traditions of the races to which they belong.

"We are all serving in a Common Cause that justice, truth and kindness in which we all believe may prevail and that thereby we may be able to return

to our homes and to peaceful lives. I wish you to convey to all ranks my best wishes for the future, and I am sure that by their courage, discipline, and endurance, we shall achieve an early and complete victory."

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BLOOD BANKS. A word about blood banks. Simultaneously with the increasing savagery of modern warfare humanitarianism and science have shown the way and come to the rescue of the wounded in the battle line and bombed areas who may be in danger of loss of life through loss of blood. The movement which began with transfusion of blood from donor to patient has now developed into the process of banking human blood. Direct transfusion, it soon became evident, would not serve in an emergency. So the plasma of the blood is converted into powder, tinned and transported to centres of medical treatment. Thanks to the labours of the Blood Transfusion Organisation of the Red Cross, 100 gallons a week are transported from U. S. to ENGLAND. ENGLAND prepares her own plasma for the war front. In INDIA, in Guindy, for instance, in our own province plasma is prepared; in Madura, the work has been started. This humanitarian movement, always useful in cases of accidents and diseases arising from loss of blood, is bound to receive an impetus in war time, especially now that the country is threatened with attack. Its development of course depends on the number of persons who will come forward to donate their blood. All healthy persons may contribute, about 10 ounces a week and even thrice a month, recouping the drain with ordinary good food. The blood is drawn painlessly at the elbow and without any of the after-effects arising from loss of blood.

A STIRRING APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF INDIA.

by

H. R. H. The Duke of Gloucester (*Broadcast on July 16*).

INDIA FASHIONED FOR UNITY.

The **first** thing that struck me was that India is a country fashioned by nature to be united.

Divided against herself, she would be weak : united, she can be great, and powerful beyond measure.

While uniformity is not to be expected in such a vast country, where there is room for differences of race, religion, language and custom, unity is a necessity; and it seemed to me that already there are strong influences at work breaking down the barriers of division and emphasising the fundamental unity of the country. Of these influences, the strongest to-day is the war.

HER DETERMINATION TO WIN.

That brings me to my **second** clear impression. From end to end of India, wherever I went, and in Ceylon, I found among the people whom I met, and in hundreds of letters which I received, one prevailing idea—**a determination to win the war, and an absolute confidence that we shall win it.** I believe that the strength and the extent of this feeling is not fully realised, in India itself or outside, perhaps because it is not sufficiently vocal.

The few who doubt, and are afraid, make themselves heard: the many who are putting all their energies into the war effort, are silent, and get on with their job.

But these are the men and women whom I came to meet and hoped to encourage, and I am glad to think that they are finding cohesion and expression now through the National War Front, a movement which is doing a great service to India. The voice of the loyal millions of India must be heard.

They must let the world know, so as many of them have let me know, that the heart of India is as bold, and determined as any of her mighty Allies, as Britain, as the United States, Russia, China, and all the great company of the United Nations, the most powerful alliance the world has ever seen.

INDIA'S MILITARY STRENGTH

My **third** clear impression was of the great military strength of India, and Ceylon to-day. You have heard Mr. Winston Churchill say that there are stronger armed forces in India now than there have ever been in the history of the British connexion. I have seen these forces in India and Ceylon. I have seen their spirit, and their quality; I have seen the defences which they are manning, and I have seen the civil defence workers behind them.

In modern war, no country is invulnerable, but India and Ceylon are a strong fortress against which the enemy, if he comes, will break his strength.

And what is more important, when the welcome day arrives for our armed forces to move forward and seek out the enemy wherever he is, whoever he may be, they will defeat and destroy him.

When I say that, I do not rely only on my own judgement. I have spoken to the men who have fought the Japanese. They have learned their tricks, and with them it is not a case of thinking: they know that when they meet the Japanese again, on anything like equal terms, they can beat them. And what they can do the Japanese, they can do to the Germans, and Italians too,

The Naval, Military and Air forces now in India, and in Ceylon are a formidable combination. British, Dominion, and Allied forces are here, and here are your own incomparable Indian troops, from all parts of India, and

from Nepal, that most steadfast Ally of the British Crown ; troops, who, drawn from every community, but fighting side by side, and with their British comrades, have already won some of the finest battle honours of all time.

So, my friends, I ask you to put your trust in them and in yourselves.

In my brother's message which I brought to you a month ago, he appealed for goodwill, and co-operation. I have found them in India, but there can never be too much of them in the world ; nor, if we would have victory soon, can there be too much of confidence, courage and determination.

When I was in Hyderabad, I was handed a poem in Urdu, addressed to the Germans. Three lines of it ran :

Have you forgotten the last Great war ?

The higher you soared, the greater was your fall.

Do you remember how we defeated you ?

THE FOUR CERTAINTIES.

That is the right spirit, and India must be full of it. When things are going not so well, and doubt or uncertainty rises like a mist before your eyes, it is good to remember the certainties of this war. The certainty of the unconquerable spirit of your Allies, the heroes of Dunkirk, and the defenders of Britain ; the certainty of the magnificent resistance of the armies of Russia, and of China ; the certainty of the superb courage, and the inexhaustible resources of the United States ; the certainty of victory.

By backing these certainties with every atom of your power and will, you, in India and Ceylon, can bring the hour of victory near.

Every hour by which the war can be shortened means the saving of hundreds of lives, and of suffering to millions of people.

THIS IS YOUR OWN WAR.

No one can afford to think : "This is someone else's war : this is nothing to do with me.'' It is in every sense, a world war. There is not a nation, whether the war was of its seeking or not, untouched by it. There is not a man, woman or child alive who does not, in some way, feel its influence : and generations unborn will be affected by its outcome. No one can afford to stand aside and be a spectator. It is a struggle between the forces of progress and of retrogression, of civilisation and barbarism, of light and darkness.

With their precious heritage, their gifts to the world of philosophy, art and culture, can any one doubt on which side India and Ceylon stand ?

LAY ASIDE YOUR DIFFERENCES.

Then lay aside your differences and stand together as one man and fight out, by the side of your friends and Allies. Fight for your homes, your posterity, and your culture. This terrible war'can only end with our victory, utter and complete.

Fascism, Nazism and the treacherous power lust of Japan must be buried in a pit so deep that they can never rise to torment the world again.

The more of us that help to dig that grave, and the harder each one of us digs, the sooner will the task be done.

BUILD THE NEW WORLD.

And when our immediate task is over, I dare hope we shall discover that good will, and co-operation have become a habit, and we, the people of the United Nations, will not find it difficult to continue our work side by side, to build the world, and our mutual relationships anew, in an imperishable spirit of comradeship engendered by our common endeavour, and our common sacifices to-day.

Good-bye and good luck to you all.

BELGIUM'S NATIONAL DAY. (JULY 21).

MESSAGES.

I

M. Spaak—Belgian Foreign Minister.

"If the year 1940 did not prove decisive in Germany's favour, she will never retrieve the opportunity which she lost at that time. If she was unable to vanguish England unarmed and isolated, she will never conquer England to-day, well-equipped aud supported by the forces of Russia and the United States.

"Keep up your courage. Victory will not forsake the United Nations. And their victory means the liberation of Belgium.

"All Belgium's hopes for reconstruction were summarised by pronouning with fervour the traditional words: "Long live the King. Long live Belgium".

II

M. Camille—Belgian Minister of Defence.

"A year ago the sky was dark, but you were animated with faith in Victory. To-day we feel it approaching.

"Although Germany is occupying hundreds of square miles of soil at the cost of enormous sacrifices, the promised lands are evading her grasp. She knows that if she does not obtain them now, she will never possess them, because, to-day, the United States is with us and sending across the seas, in impressive waves, materials and soldiers for the defence of liberty.

"On this solemn day, the anniversary of independence, which is dearer to us than anything in the world, the thoughts of the Army go to our poor mutilated country, fleeced and pillaged, where patriotism is punished as a crime: to our king and dynasty to which she (the country) is attached by secular constitutional bond; to the admirable population whose resistance is increasing as persecution becomes more odious.

"To all, the army says: 'Courage, the worst is past! When the day comes, you will see the Germans fleeing before our victorious armies and we will bring to you your banners".

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT.

ACHIEVING "TOGETHERNESS".

*Broadcast by **Sir Robert Denniston** from All India Radio, Madras.*

BLASPHEMY.

The value of a lie, says Mr. Schicklgruber, is in its size, and the Arch-Hun certainly lives up to his precepts in this respect. We have all heard the German Radio raucously belching forth untruths of greater or lesser degree, ranging from what Mr. Churchill, when young and flippant, called "the terminological inexactitude" to the great big thumping resounding whopper. **I believe I have found the prizewinner—the Hun broadcaster who solemnly proclaimed "Everywhere the Germans go the land becomes a garden of God.'.**

Let us examine this ever so slightly euphemistic statement. You have seen harrowing pictures of Polish citizens hanging from scaffolds, of Poles digging their own graves. You have read Mr. Molotov's indictment setting forth the almost incredible atrocities perpetrated by the Germans in Russia. You have read of the hundreds of Czechs murdered as a reprisal for the assassination of Heydrich—that henchman of the Devil. You remember the devastation wrought in Holland and Belgium by the German Air Force and you will not forget the many millions of starving people—starving through the act of the decadent lunatic of Berlin. You will call to mind that there are 2¼ million foreign workers—forced labour, all of them—in Germany at the present day and there are in addition 1¼ million prisoners working for

the Hun. As recently as yesterday it was reported that in Norway children of from 10 to 15 years of age are being held as hostages, and in France children are being sent to "houses of correction" in reprisal for their parents' actions. Think of the horror of it.

And so you may perhaps agree with me in awarding the palm for effrontery, profanity and blasphemy to the perpetrator of the sentiments which I have just quoted.

A JAPANESE GARDEN.

Turning to the Eastern Hemisphere, do the people fare any better in those countries which have been temporarily overrun by the Japanese? I will quote a few sentences from a tearful and revealing broadcast by Marshal Songgram, the puppet leader of Siam. Listen to him. "I hope," he quavers, "all of you will be able to concur in the views of the Government that you have to sacrifice your freedom of speech. In a state of emergency if you do not construct your means of living you will have to starve to death for certain. I beg all of you to do your best if you want to be happy in the future. **You must be brave and remember that as you are born to die you may just as well die together.**" Another "garden of God" in Siam it would seem, only a Japanese garden this time! And the Chinese could tell you a thing or two about Manchuria.

You have read with horror the stories of Japanese atrocities in countries which they have occupied. I will add one authenticated case. A British Officer in Burma was captured by the Japanese. He escaped, but was recaptured, whereupon the Japanese broke both his ankles. The only pleasant part of the story is that in spite of being crippled the Officer escaped again, and this time successfully. But it is desirable—is it not—so to prepare ourselves that we in this country should not have to undergo the horrors attendant on enemy occupation. **In these days when everybody lets off speeches in the same way that a leaky boiler lets off steam, much is said that is valueless, much that is redundant, much that is puerile, but occasionally one comes across a striking phrase or sentence. I quote from a speech by Mr. Rambhir Singh Josh who said "The battle ground is going to be the only common ground between the Japanese Fascists and ourselves. They come to conquer our land and to enslave our people. We will give them land—4½ feet of it for the grave of each pigmy marauder who sets foot on Indian soil." I like that. Don't you?—there's guts in it.**

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT.

But while it is mildly satisfying to search for epithets to describe our enemies—the best epithets, alas, are not suited to the microphone—it doesn't get us anywhere. Kipling described it, in the Boer War, as "Killing Kruger

with our mouths"—and we want something rather better than that. And there is something better. It is called the National War Front.

What is it, and why should it be your concern and mine? First and foremost, its object is the complete and utter and final destruction of all the foul things which the totalitarian states stand for, for as long as Nazism, Fascism, and whatever the filthy "ism" favoured by Japan may be called, continue to exist, the world will remain a shambles. Membership of the National War Front is open to every man and woman of goodwill from the highest in the land to the lowliest, and when you join it you become a member of an organization which strives to achieve—in the word so happily coined by His Excellency the Governor—"togetherness". There is room in it for every man and woman in this country who hates the "isms" of aggressors and who believes that the laws of humanity should prevail against the laws of the jungle and the predatory beasts which it unlooses. **It is without consideration of caste, race, creed, or political opinions—it recognises no social distinctions, its members are just men and women who want to cleanse the world of pollution.**

DEFIANCE—NOT DEFENCE.

Now I am not sure that I am very fond of pledges—I always think there is something a little theatrical about them. But the National War Front has a definite object, and it is expedient that that object should be put into words, and so a form of pledge has been evolved and it is this :—

> "**Because I am proud to be a citizen of India I solemnly pledge myself to stamp out defeatism and suppress alarmist rumours; to face and defy every peril threatening India's national honour and security and to work day by day in sure and certain hope of victory.**"

That's all, but isn't it worth while ?

Now I want to stress one word in this pledge—it is the word "*defy*". You will observe that the word "defence" does not appear—it is a word of which we have heard too much of late. And so **the National War Front's motto is defiance—attack—drive.** "Yes", you will say, "that's all very well, but these are things for the army, for the fighting man." Do you remember Marshal Foch in the last War ? **He would win, he said, provided the civilians held out.** And how vastly more important in this war is the civilian than in the last ? The Huns' success—ephemeral though it be—has been largely due to the fact that it is part of their filthy technique to wage war on the civilian. This more than anything led to the downfall of France, and it was too much for the pathetic old soldier who, 20 years earlier had said at Verdun "they shall not pass". And so France capitulated. And our enemies

continue to strike at the civilian in order to undermine his *morale*—that incalculable thing which can only be translated by the inelegant but expressive word "guts".

Now how far has the enemy's attack on civilian *morale* been successful in this part of the world. It has succeeded, if we may believe those who have returned from Malaya and Burma, to the extent that it has disorganized the esssential services, because, under stress, the civilian did not stay put. Understand that I am generalizing—there have been many individual cases of great bravery and devotion to duty—but the disorganization of the ordinary routine of life, on which the enemy relied, did actually take place.

A HORRID PHRASE.

Let us examine the National War Front pledge which I have quoted, in greater detail. "I solemnly pledge myself to stamp out defeatism and suppress alarmist rumours." I don't know who the idiot was who invented the phrase "wishful thinking." If we venture to take an optimistic view of a situation, which does not look too good at the moment, we are told that we are guilty of "wishful thinking." Of all the horrid phrases coined during the war this is the horridest—and because of its implied defeatism, the most dangerous. By all means let us think wishfully if we are convinced—as I am—that we cannot lose this war, and to hell with the gloom-mongers. It is a very human foible—we share it, you and I—to enjoy being the bearer of news, and even if it is bad news, we feel a sort of gloomy satisfaction at being able to relate it. **Beware of the fellow who greets you in an awe inspring whisper with "Have you heard. . ." and ask him, if his news is bad, for chapter and verse. In nine cases out of ten he won't be able to supply it, and you can tell him he is helping Dr. Goebbels—he won't like it, but it will be true.**

STAY PUT.

Now when we pledge ourselves to "face and defy every peril threatening India's honour and security" we automatically pledge ourselves to stay put—we can't face perils if we scuttle out of the danger zone. Remember that there are millions of people who are in far greater peril every hour of their lives than we are ever likely to be, so let us carry on with our jobs in the knowledge that if we don't we are weakening the war effort.

The extent to which the individual can help is, I think, summed up admirably in some verses by Mr. A. A. Milne from which I will quote briefly:—

> Well, are you coming in ?
> It's a fight between good and evil.
> It's a fight between God and the devil.

Where do you stand to-day?
Which are you for? You have chosen, Yes.
But is it enough for men to bless
The men who fight, and to turn away?
Is it enough for women to cry
And to say "poor things" when the innocent die?
Is it enough to give your prayers
And then—go back to your own affairs?
It's a fight for all that you counted dear
It's a fight for all that you fought to win
The fight is on, and the issue clear.
Good or evil
God or the devil.
Well, are you coming in?

MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE.

By

John MacDonald.

While there is conclusive evidence that Japan and Germany are in sympathy with each other and are aiding each other as far as they can, there is also evidence that the Axis as a co-operative unit is in reality a myth. Both powers are acting independently of each other and for selfish ends. The Japanese are not the puppets of the Nazis but are in the war for their own aggrandisement alone. When Japan struck at the United States and Britain it was for her own ends, risking everything including the fate of her so-called partner Germany.

In the surprise attacks on Pearl Harbour and Malaya the Japanese completely disregarded the type of strategy which naturally would have been expected from a co-operating Axis partner. There was no attempt to relieve the Russian pressure on the German armies. Neither was there any attempt to divert the regular R. A. F. bomber sweeps over the German industrial regions. Instead the Japanese executed their own scheme of conquest on which they have been working for the last 30 years.

TREATY WITH RUSSIA.

If the Axis were a solid co-ordinated alliance, why should Japan have waited from June to December while Germany fought Russia unaided? The very opposite

took place. Japan completed a treaty of friendship with Russia with the proviso that there should be no war between the two signatories. That the Axis Powers have a complete disregard for treaties and pacts of all types is well known, but in this case Japan shows all signs of desiring to keep the treaty with Russia for the time being.

The Japs had two good reasons for leaving the Russians alone apart from the treaty of friendship. They were : (*a*) Russian bombers from Vladivostok could do great damage to Japanese industrial centres and naval bases, and (*b*) they had been waiting for years for just this opportunity to execute their own traditional strategy, on the basis that if they could once establish themselves in Eastern Asia and in the Southern Pacific, no Western Powers could dislodge them.

OPPORTUNE MOMENT

The moment the Russians were fully engaged on their western front with Germany, and when a large part of the United States Fleet had been moved to the Atlantic, offered the opportunity the Japs had been waiting for for generations.

The Japs gambled all when the Powers they most feared were engaged elsewhere. If they succeeded, they could hope that their own Far Eastern Empire might become secure from any future attack from Germany as well as from the Anglo-Saxon Powers. They rightly saw that a victorious Germany would become as much of an obstacle to their designs as any one of the Allied Nations.

That Hitler did not have any advance notice of the Japanese plans is revealed by the reactions in Germany to the Japanese attack. Hitler displayed unmistakable signs of panic. However, no matter what Hitler's feelings may have been, he had to keep up the appearance of an unshakable Axis. This necessity forced the Axis partners in Europe to declare war on the United States.

German propaganda tries to argue that the Axis is secure and the partners are faithful to each other. The truth is that both Germany and Japan are working as lone wolves to attain their separate ends, each an empire which vainly hopes to expand to world domination.

CHINA'S GLORIOUS FIVE-YEAR ORDEAL.

by

John MacDonald.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has promised that the next bearer of peace proposals to him from the Japanese shall be executed. Therein lies the spirit of Chinese resistance to Japan. " There shall be no peace until every Japanese

soldier is driven from Chinese soil"—thus the great leader of the Chinese nation speaks on the eve of the sixth year of war.

With the start of the "special undeclared" Sino-Japanese war in 1937, the Japanese succeeded in capturing the more eastern and northerly portions of China. The cities of Peiping, Tientsin, Shanghai and Nanking had fallen into Japanese hands by December of the same year. The next year found the southerly and coastal towns occupied by the enemy. While these facts take only seconds to record on paper, they meant months of hard fighting. The Chinese, fighting against an enemy superior in numbers and equipment, were intensely bitter in their hatred of the enemy.

FIRST PEACE OVERTURE.

After the taking of the capital, Nanking, on December 13, 1937, the Japanese made their first peace overture—which was rejected in no uncertain terms. The excesses of the Japanese soldiers in places like Nanking and others had damned them forever in Chinese eyes. They must all be driven back......back to their own volcanic islands.

Since the taking of Canton in October, 1938, the Japanese advance in China has, in all its essentials, been negligible. **A considerable portion of the country is technically in Japanese hands, but it must be remembered that in all the occupied territory the Japanese have complete control only of the main towns and railways. The rest is highly vulnerable to guerilla activity—and in this particular sphere of warfare the Chinese are masters.** Lines of communication, stretched out to their limit, have been attacked, railway lines torn up and trains dynamited, trucks and supply carts have been ambushed and captured.

Chinese military tactics to date have been—never fight a decisive battle if the enemy has superior equipment, the policy has been one of seeking out and finding the enemy's weak spots and concentrating all effort in that direction, and when retreat is necessary—retreat as slow as possible. The time soon comes when the enemy has to concentrate on another part of the front; then Chinese forces attack the sector that has been weakened. This accounts for the retaking of towns that were captured.

BOGGED DOWN.

As the result of these tactics the enemy has been completely bogged down, and only with great difficulty has he been able to advance. Meanwhile, the Chinese have had time to re-equip and strengthen themselves. Chinese fighting strength to-day is greater than it was at the beginning of the war. Armies in training are being equipped with the best type of weapons that the United Nations have to offer.

For five years China has struggled alone. The help she received took various forms, but the struggle, the fighting, the blood, tears, toil and sweat were borne by the Chinese people themselves. Aid given to her by the United Nations prior to the declaration of war in December, 1941, took the form of loans and munitions, and war materials supplied under the Lease-Lend Act. **China herself has built up a very considerable war industry, and is able completely to equip her armies with small arms aud ammunition.**

As the enemy had control of all China's ports it was necessary to take supplies in by other means. The first and most famous supply route was the Burma Road. This Road was finally and definitely closed to the Allies by the Japanese occupation of Burma. **There is another highway into China from India—a route more northerly than the Burma Road, and more than twice as long; nevertheless, it does function and is providing China with some of the materials she so urgently needs. Other land routes are through Tibet and Samarkand. Last year 35,000 tons of goods went into China from Russia, via the Chinese provinces of Kansu and Shensi. The route that is proving most effective is by air. Huge American Army transport planes carry as much as seven tons of goods to Kunming from India in only a few hours.**

HELP TO UNITED NATIONS.

On the declaration of war by the United States and Britain against Japan in December, 1941, China unhesitatingly placed her armies at the disposal of the United Nations. The treacherous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour and Malaya had the result of isolating Hong Kong. In spite of difficulties and dangers of such a manoeuvre, Chinese forces immediately moved towards Hong Kong with the hope of contacting and aiding the Allied troops stationed there. Again, during the campaign in Burma, Chinese forces fought side by side with British and Indian troops.

Another phase of the Sino-Japanese war was the appearance in 1940 of the American Volunteer Group "popularly known as the A. V. G's". These "Flying Tigers" are to-day a part of the United States Army and Air force in India. **While they were defending the Burma Road they held the enviable record of having shot down or destroyed 22 Japanese planes to each one of their own.**

In raids on Chinese open cities, the Japanese have killed approximately 70,000 civilians and have wounded another 100,000. 1939 was the worst year, there being 2,613 raids which killed 28,184 and wounded 31,094. The first raids on Chungking were on May 3 and 4, 1939, in which the killed and wounded totalled 10,000. In an anniversary raid two years later, the

Japanese used the same number of aircraft, but only five persons were killed. In the two years interval Chungking had built up a system of underground shelters dug deep into the hills, which to-day make Chungking one of the safest capital cities in the world, but at the same time one of the most uncomfortable.

The China of the early 20th century is no more. To-day China is in the forefront of the struggle against the aggressor nations. She has one leader, one government and one motive force, one ambition—to drive the Japanese out of China. Then will come the period of reconstruction.

HITLER'S DRIVE TO THE MIDDLE EAST.
TURKEY TO REMAIN NEUTRAL.
CONFIDENCE IN ULTIMATE BRITISH VICTORY.

by

Leonard Kirschen

One of the most ungrateful tasks of the modern journalist is to write an article and then mail it. By the time it has reached its destination, the general situation sometimes has changed so much that his rounding up of a real situation at the time of writing becomes mere wishful thinking when the article reaches its destination. Looking back through some of my dispatches I find myself wondering whether it has not really been wishful thinking.

I was wondering whether my Turkish friends with whom I discussed the position of the battle of Libya when reporting Turkish reaction were not now thinking the same. It must be admitted that the bad news which reached us in Ankara from Libya was a bit of a cold shower but not the sort one would expect here with the thermometer showing 65 deg. Centigrade in the sun and 43 in the shade. I took to-day's morning newspaper in order to find the reaction and what struck me most was the opening phrase in B. Falih Rifki Atay's article on Libya:

"One of the finest traditions of the British people consists in the teaching: 'never to hide a setback' and however grave the hour never to 'lose courage'."

FALL OF TOBRUK.

During the last week I also had a visitor from the German controlled Balkans. He had just arrived and was telling me that the Axis countries were certain to lose the War. A former politician, the man and his words impressed me. Then the reverse came and Tobruk fell. We both heard the news in my hotel room listening to the B. B. C. broadcast. There was a moment of silence after I had switched off the radio and I was wondering how to explain the situation to my friend. As it happened, this was not necessary. On the walls of my room I had stuck up a number of war maps. He was than calmly looking at one of these. At last he said: **"When I measure the immensity of the British Empire, the United States and Russia, plus the other free nations with the territories of the Tripartite powers and the territories they have occupied temporarily, I cannot help feeling that my Government is rendering me a service by forbidding me to listen to the foreign news bulletins. You are worried, but I am not, this is only a passing phase. The Germans and their Allies will still lose the war." I certainly felt happier after that.**

The reaction of the man in the street in Turkey is certainly one of surprise. He had been accustomed during the whole of the last year to consider Tobruk impregnable. The fact that the town fell after only 48 hours came to him as a bit of a shock. He is now recovering and is thinking like Falih Rifki Atay and like my anonymous friend from the Balkans.

BRITAIN WILL WIN.

Rommel has not yet overrun Egypt and even for him, once professor of strategy at the Military Academy in Berlin, it will not be an easy task to tackle the strategic positions established just inside the Egyptian frontier which have never been contested and have therefore had plenty of time to be consolidated. In a conversation with a member of the Turkish cabinet—before the fall of Tobruk—we were discussing the Libyan campaign. I had asked the Minister whether he doubted the outcome of the campaign and whether he thought Egypt was in danger. **He replied that information which had reached Turkey through Turkish channels was completely reassuring and that it did not matter who held a few square miles of sand as long as the main strategic positions remained intact. He had full confidence that the Germans would never reach the Canal.**

We cannot foretell the ups and downs of a battle in progress and the fortunes of war change rapidly on one battle front alone, but it is comforting to find out that the Turkish people are not upset by one dark hour, be it ever so grave. One deputy told me: **"We never doubted Britain's ability to win the**

war in darker hours and moments of great anxiety, long before Russia had entered the war, and France had been beaten. Then Britain alone was standing up to the formidable onslaught of the Nazi war machinery. Why should we doubt the ultimate issue now ?"

There you have it in a nut-shell. Britain which stood up to fiercer onslaughts, and fought over one year alone cannot be pictured by Turkish minds as losing this war.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State National War Front Bureau.

1942—

LECTURE CV—(*Batch 2*).

July	...25, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	26, Sunday ...	Tiruvappur ...	5.30 p. m.
		Vayalogam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kudumiyamalai ...	6.30 p. m.
	27, Monday ...	Nachandupatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Virachchilai ...	6.30 p. m.
	28, Tuesday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Nallur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Mandaiyur ...	6.30 p. m.
	29, Wednesday.	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		College Tamil Branch school	10.15 a. m.
		Vengalur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Konapattu ...	6.30 p. m.
	30, Thursday ...	Panayappatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Rangiyam ...	6.30 p. m.
	31, Friday ...	Kodumbalur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Viralimalai ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE CVI—(*Batch 3*).

August	... 1, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	2, Sunday ...	Alangudi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kottaikkadu ...	6.30 p. m.
	3, Monday ...	Annavasal ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilakkurichchi ...	6.30 p. m.
	4, Tuesday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Ramachandrapuram ...	6.00 p. m.
		Rayavaram ...	6.30 p. m.
	5, Wednesday.	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		College Tamil (Branch School)	10.15 a. m.
		P. Puduppatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Vendampatti ...	6.30 p. m.
	6, Thursday ...	Malaiyur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Karambakkudi ...	6.30 p. m.
	7, Friday ...	Valaramanikkam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Embal ...	6.30 p. m.

THE FOLLOWING PLACES WILL BE VISITED BY THE ADVERTISING PARTY OF THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU FROM 4 P. M. TO 5 P. M. ON THE DAYS NOTED BELOW. THE STATE BAND WILL PLAY; POSTERS WILL BE EXHIBITED; AND HAND-BILLS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AND EXPLAINED.

Saturday	...	25— 7—42	...	Tirumayyam.
Sunday	...	26— 7—42	...	Embal.
Monday	...	27— 7—42	...	Arimalam.
Tuesday	...	28— 7—42	...	Konapattu.
Wednesday	...	29— 7—42	...	Rayavaram.
Thursday	...	30— 7—42	...	Kulipirai.
Friday	...	31— 7—42	...	Pappapatti.
Saturday	...	1— 8—42	...	Ponamaravathi.
Sunday	...	2— 8—42	...	Marudankonviduthi.
Monday	...	3— 8—42	...	Viralimalai
Tuesday	...	4— 8—42	...	Vadakadu.
Thursday	...	6— 8—42	...	Kilanilai.
Friday	...	7— 8—42	...	Pudukkottai.

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